

Key to War
Still in West,
Is U. S. View

First Congress, on October 16, 1907. In 1907 Secretary Taft also made a trip to the Panama Canal Zone.

In 1906, when the Cuban government weakened and threatened to cede the island to the United States, Secretary of War Taft was delegated by President Roosevelt to assume charge of the island administration and the served in that capacity several months.

Almost Encircled,
Americans Repulse
Foe With Heavy Loss

By Cable to The Courier des Etats Unis

PARIS, March 10.—The war correspondent of the "Temps" gives the following particulars about the affair in which American troops were engaged in the Wever, and which was announced in the official communiqué of March 5:

"The enemy had prepared for the night of March 4-5 a coup de main on a point of the American sector by an artillery action of varied calibres. Then started the sally of three attacking forces preceded by sappers, one debouching from the east, the other from the west, the third designed to make a diversion and assault from the rear our positions already attacked from the front. The first group, after penetrating our line, were ejected with losses and reached their trenches in disorder.

"In the meantime the Americans had opened from another side a musketry and machine-gun fire on the second group, whose sappers tried to cut up the protecting iron wires, and rapidly dispersed it.

"There remained the third group. Taking advantage of the contact of the two first fractions with the defenders of the section, the last group succeeded in creeping into our lines, and started an attack from the rear. The situation became for a moment quite critical. Our allies found themselves turned and almost encircled. Already the Germans counted on a fine capture of prisoners. But the Americans, far from thinking of surrender, stood their ground, overwhelmed the assailant, and finally put him to flight without leaving a prisoner in his hands.

"An hour after the attack the Germans were back in their trenches, but the exception of the dead and wounded they had left on our ground."

Kaiser Trusts Sword
To Bring Great Peace

AMSTERDAM, March 10.—Replying to a message of homage from the East Prussian Diet, Emperor William, according to the "Tagblatt," of Berlin, telegraphed:

"The province of East Prussia is especially dear to my heart. In this war it has made great sacrifices, and therefore it will more gladly acknowledge the hand of God as now shown in the East. We owe our victory largely to the moral and spiritual treasures which the great philosopher of Königsberg bestowed upon our people.

"The great philosopher of Königsberg referred to by Emperor William was Immanuel Kant, who was born at Königsberg in 1724 and died there in 1804.

"The Kaiser, in replying to the congratulations of the Prussian Upper House on the conclusion of peace in the East, said:

"Even if the road to a general peace is a long one, a good beginning has been made, and I confidently trust that our victorious sword and steadfast unity in this serious work soon will bring us within sight of the goal, which will give us the great peace. God grant it."

Motono Evades Inquiry
About Mobilization

TOKIO, March 9.—Viscount Motono, the Japanese Foreign Minister, was asked to-day in the House of Representatives by the leader of the Opposition concerning the mobilization of the Japanese army.

"The Foreign Minister refused to be drawn into a discussion of the subject.

Spitzbergen Conference
Continuation Sought

LONDON, March 10.—There has been some comment here as to the status in the Russo-German peace treaty of the island of Spitzbergen, where there are large American interests. The Wolff Bureau version of this article of the treaty follows:

"The contracting parties will direct their efforts toward the organization of the Spitzbergen conference of 1914 carried out on a footing of equality for both parties. To this end both governments will request the Norwegian government to bring about a continuation of the Spitzbergen conference as soon as possible after the conclusion of a general peace."

America Reassures
Swiss as to Cereals

BERNE, Switzerland, March 9.—An official note issued here announces that the American government has advised the Swiss government it is making continuous efforts to solve the cereal supply problem in accordance with the promise contained in the agreement made between the United States and Switzerland December 5 last. The note said the Washington government is fully alive to its obligations, and that they will be fulfilled even if to do so it is necessary to deprive American consumers of certain foodstuffs.

"The American declaration that the agreement concerning American grain for Switzerland will be duly fulfilled made an excellent impression on the Swiss press. The announcement came immediately with the report of the arrival at a French harbor of three steamers loaded with cereals which departed from America with the torpedoed Spanish steamer Sardinero. The latter vessel was sunk and had on board 3,855 tons of grain for Switzerland.

Jews Grateful to Allies

Resolutions addressed to the President of the United States and to the heads of the Allied governments expressing the gratitude of the Jewish Ministers' Association of America for their aid in establishing a homeland for the Jewish race were adopted yesterday at a meeting of the association held in the Girls' Technical School, Fifteenth Street and Second Avenue.

"Loyalty to the government, which will be another resolution, which will also be forwarded to Mr. Wilson. A committee of fifty was appointed to select a date and place for a convention of all the Jewish bodies to arrange for co-ordinated work among Jews of Jewish faith."

HOW GERMANY IS REACHING OUT IN THE EAST AND THE NORTH



The solid mass of black in the centre of the map shows the territory the Central Powers hold in Europe and Asia. In the last three weeks Germany has enormously extended her dominions in the East at the expense of helpless Russia, adding 120,000 square miles to her territory.

The new German conquests have aroused dreams of further victories in Asia. Germany has announced that she has secured a clear route to Afghanistan, which adjoins the vast British dependency of India. The possible routes are indicated on the map—all originating at Lemberg, the great rail centre of Galicia. One goes through Kiev, and passing through Rostov-on-the-Don, touches the Caspian Sea at Petrovsk, crosses the Caspian, and then picks up the Trans-Caucasian railway. Another runs from Lemberg to Odessa, and thence from point to point along the north coast of the Black Sea to Batum, and then across Trans-Caucasia. A third runs from Lemberg to Odessa, across the Black Sea to its southern shore, following the pathway of the famous "ten thousand" into lower Trans-Caucasia, now ceded to Turkey, and thence through northern Persia to Afghanistan.

But Germany has also suddenly become threatening in the north. The Scandinavian neutrals, shown in the shaded portion of the map, are in a circle, have been seized by Germany, and are being used as a base for the invasion of Finland, which masks Sweden completely on the east. Sweden is angry but cautious. The situation for all the Scandinavian countries—Sweden, Norway and Denmark—is critical.

were, however, lively from the Astoria to the Brest, and from the Eastern slopes of the Monte Grappa to the Piave.

Mountain Offensive Expected

"Advices indicate that the enemy contemplates taking the offensive in the mountain area, possibly in an effort to dislodge the Italian forces from the plain. We may look for increased activity in this theatre, which will, no doubt, develop spontaneously when the weather conditions are more favorable.

"In the meantime, Italian forces have now fully recovered from their losses of the campaign of last autumn. Their cadres are reorganized and the Italian armies are operating in close conjunction with the British and French divisions, not at the front in Italy.

"In Russia the situation is changing with crupitive rapidity. The Germans continue to advance inland. The lists tabulated by the enemy, of terrain captured, guns, stores and other war material taken, grow daily more voluminous.

"In Finland the Germans are operating in conjunction with the White Guards against the Red Guards, and are in control of the line north of Tampere and Viborg. The Germans have landed on the Aland Islands, which they will probably use as a base for an invasion of Finland.

Invading Column Opposed

"The German invasion of Russia is in full swing. One hostile column at least is now meeting with some opposition. In Estonia the Russians are holding off the invaders in front of Yamburg. This centre, though occupied by the enemy, has been retaken by Russian forces. Advances from Petrograd indicate that 100,000 workmen have enlisted in the Russian army and are training for the defence of the capital.

"In Siberia it is reported that the ex-German war prisoners are armed and drilling in the vicinity of Irkutsk, and that throughout Siberia, German and Austrian prisoners of war are being assisted by certain Russian elements.

"Railway bridges east of Lake Baikal and in the vicinity of Uita have been destroyed as a result of the rumor of Japanese intervention.

"A detachment of American engineers is en route for Harbin."

The engineers referred to are part of the Stevens party on their way out of Russia.

Naval Officer Punished

Lieutenant Commander Martin is Dropped 25 Points

WASHINGTON, March 10.—Lieutenant Commander Frank C. Martin, navigator of the battleship Texas, when it went aground off Long Island last year, has been dropped twenty-five points in his rank by the Secretary of the Navy, as a result of the findings of the Naval Court of Review before which he was brought.

Mr. Betts said that Martin recalled to naval men to-night that the same leniency accorded to Captain Victor Blue, commander of the Texas, who also was court-martialed for the same offense, was not extended to Martin. In Blue's case the Court of Review recommended that he lose twenty points. Secretary Daniels reduced this penalty to ten numbers and permitted the officer to retain command of the Texas.

Betts Will Retire

He Will Not Accept Reappointment to Markets Council

ALBANY, N. Y., March 10.—Charles H. Betts, whose connection with the Farmers and Markets Council as secretary led to many farmers' organizations demanding his resignation, today announced that he would not accept a reappointment to the new council because of the pressure of other duties, including the secretaryship of the State Food Commission.

Ten Munition Districts Fixed To Speed Work

War Department Announces Decentralization Plan

Samuel G. Allen Gets Post Here

Organization Will Put Government in Closer Contact With Maker

[Special Correspondence]

WASHINGTON, March 10.—The War Department issues the following statement:

In order to bring about decentralization and closer contact with manufacturers of munitions, General Wheeler, acting chief of the Ordnance Department, has divided the country into ten munition districts, with headquarters for the different zones at Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Rochester, New Haven, Detroit, Cincinnati, Chicago, New York City and Philadelphia.

In each of the cities where a district office is to be established one of the leading business executives has been selected to be district chief of the production division of the Ordnance Department.

At the head of the Pittsburgh office the production division will have Ralph M. Dravo, a member of the firm of Dravo Brothers, steel constructors. Mr. Dravo's office at the present time are in the Diamond Bank Building, at Pittsburgh, but he will establish a central office for the production division of the Ordnance Department within the next few days.

District Appointments

Appointments for the other district offices follow:

Cleveland—Samuel Sevil, who resigned as president of the Cleveland Illuminating Company to take the position offered him by the production division of the Ordnance Department, is in the Plymouth Building, Rochester—F. S. Noble, one of the chief executives of the Eastman Kodak Company.

Boston—Levi H. Greenwood, of the Wakefield Rattan Company. New Haven—Waldo C. Bryant, president of the Bryant Electric Company, of Bridgeport, Conn.

Detroit—Fred J. Robinson, president of the Lowrie & Robinson Lumber Company. Cincinnati—Charles L. Harrison, of the Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce. Chicago—E. A. Russell, vice-president of the Otis Elevator Company, with present offices at 600 Jackson Boulevard.

New York—Samuel G. Allen, chairman of the Lima Locomotive Works. His present offices as chairman of the Lima Locomotive Works are at the Albemarle Building, 1107 Broadway. Philadelphia—John C. Jones, of the Harrison Safety Boiler Works, Philadelphia.

Plan by Colonel Tripp

Colonel Guy E. Tripp, of New York, formerly chairman of the Westinghouse Company and now chief of the production division of the Ordnance Department, worked out the details of the plan for decentralization and closer contact with the munitions industry.

General W. S. Peirce, head of the bureau in which is the finance division of the Ordnance Department, and Colonel B. W. Dunn, head of the inspection division, have arranged to follow the same decentralization plan and will have their field forces in the same district headquarters as the production division.

Colonel Samuel McRoberts, formerly vice-president and executive manager of the National City Bank, who has been at the head of the procurement division of the Ordnance Department for some time, will cooperate with the district offices.

The plan which has been worked out is one of the logical departments of the reorganization of the Ordnance Department some time ago. It not only brings the department into direct contact with the munitions industries so that the work of the Ordnance Department is done, and more exact information as to the progress of the work on all the implements of war.

The territory covered by the different districts has been clearly outlined by the department, and the comparatively few divisions which are not embraced in these districts will deal with the production division in Washington as heretofore.

The various production division districts as at present established cover territory as is outlined below:

The Chicago district comprises the State of Indiana north of the boundary line of the following counties: Warren, Clinton, Howard, Grant, Blackford and Jay and the State of Kentucky.

The Detroit district comprises the State of Michigan.

The Pittsburgh district comprises the State of West Virginia and that part of Pennsylvania, except Erie, Crawford and Mercer counties, lying west of the west boundary line of the following counties: Tioga, Lycoming, Adams, and Belmont and Jefferson counties, Ohio.

The Boston district comprises that part of Massachusetts lying east of the State line of New Jersey, except the following counties: Green, Columbia, Ulster, Sullivan, Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Westchester, Rockland, Nassau, Suffolk and Greater New York.

The New Haven district comprises that part of the State of New York lying north of the north boundary line of the following counties: Darke, Miami, Clarke, Fayette, Perry, Morgan, Noble, Belmont and Jefferson and the following counties in Pennsylvania: Erie, Crawford and Mercer.

The Rochester district comprises the State of New York, except the following counties: Green, Columbia, Ulster, Sullivan, Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Westchester, Rockland, Nassau, Suffolk and Greater New York.

The Philadelphia district comprises the eastern half of the State of Pennsylvania, lying east of the west boundary line of the following counties: Tioga, Lycoming, Mifflin, Juniata, Perry, Cumberland, Adams, and Lancaster, and the following counties in New Jersey: Mercer, Ocean, Gloucester, Burlington, Cumberland, Atlantic, Cape May and all of the State of Delaware.

Cobb Saw Tuscania Sink; Was Scooped

When the transport got her death blow there was a trained newspaper man within a few hundred yards of her—a historian, for once, on the spot. The very torpedo that struck the ship, saw the rocks during the war. He was aboard, had bumped his head against her side and then had gone on, sparing him to write the story.

In the meantime, the writer of the whole picture went, adding to the whole with photographic accuracy. He saw the transport blaze up with light after all the stealthy maneuvering in the darkness. He saw the rockets falling on the destroyers to stand by a great picture, a great story, an opportunity for a beat that would stand the test of time.

No one knew better how much such a beat would be worth to a newspaper than the man into whose hands it fell. For many years he had written about the sinking of the Lusitania, and he was the dais of Charles Chaplin—a shy editor who expects a reporter with a sore foot to get where he sends him faster than Barney Oldfield could make his time on a straightaway track, who expects to be able to start about the complete story upstairs while something that takes three seconds to happen is still happening.

A light on the Irish coast was visible as those on the stricken transport were swallowed by the sea. The news was still hot to the touch when the reporter went racing ashore. In due course there came throbbing under the full facts in the case, written in this particular reporter's inimitable style.

But it did not make the home edition. It did not reach Chaplin's hands at all. That, for the man from whose typewriter it came, was the tragedy of the thing. He had another job. He was out of the "Daily Game" He was under contract on the outside. He did what his contract called for, when his fingers were itching to write at the head of his dispatch the familiar old name of "The Evening News."

Well, a month is past, pretty nearly. The scoop is a scoop no longer—hardly news. Mr. Chaplin would have had out an extra, but "The Saturday Evening Post" cannot be rushed like that. It is just now that "The Post" is out with Irvin Cobb's eyewitness story of the Tuscania's end!

Priest's Skull Fractured
In Fall Boarding Car

The Rev. August Rockman, curate of the Catholic Church of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, at Hic-Hic and Degraw streets, Brooklyn, in attempting to board a Flatbush Avenue car yesterday slipped and was pitched on his head in the street. He was taken to the Kings County Hospital with a fractured skull, but is expected to recover.

Navy to Coordinate Government Shipping

It Will Assign Officers to All Atlantic Ports Used for Military Purposes

[Staff Correspondence]

WASHINGTON, March 10.—To attain unity of action on the part of the Navy Department and the Shipping Control Committee at New York and other Atlantic ports where government shipping is involved, officers of the navy, representing the overseas operating division of the Bureau of Operations of the Navy Department, soon will be assigned to all ports. Lack of cooperation between the several departments concerned with shipping has prompted the navy to designate competent officers to assist at ports of embarkation. All matters relative to naval personnel and operating cargo or other vessels will be handled by the Overseas Bureau of Operations in the Navy Department.

All details pertaining to troop convoys or in connection with matters that arise between the army and navy in the operation of troopships will be handled by the naval staff on the staff of the commanding officer at the ports.

All arrangements for transportation of supplies or troops, with the necessary conveyance, under the new plan will be handled by the commanding generals of the several ports and the commander of the cruiser force.

2,000 Russians in Yonkers

YONKERS, March 10.—Two thousand Russians, many of them from New York, met in Phillipsburgh Hall today to protest against a separate peace between Germany and the United States. The meeting was held in the hall of the Yonkers Y. M. C. A. and was attended by a large number of Russian-Americans. A resolution was adopted pledging "undivided loyalty and devotion to the President of the United States."

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While there have been no reports that the Germans fired on the escaping crew of the hospital ship at the time of the torpedoing, this recovery leads to the belief that an attack was made subsequently on some of the boats.

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Denies Caulkers Plan To Block Shipbuilding

Unions' Agent in Seattle Says Men Will Prove Their Loyalty to Nation

SEATTLE, Wash., March 10.—Any fears entertained that the wooden shipbuilding programme in the Puget Sound district is threatened with a tie-up through a shortage of caulkers, and refusal of caulkers to touch apprentices made by the Shipping Board last week, are groundless, according to Edward Rowan, business agent of the shipwrights' and caulkers' union in Seattle, in a statement to The Associated Press to-night. Mr. Rowan asserted that he spoke officially for the union.

"I have promised you that I shall do nothing against you," said Clemenceau, turning to the Socialists. "I have done nothing. I have but one care, namely, to maintain the morale of the country, which is admirable. There have been moments when that could not have been said, but now the morale of our soldiers is the admiration